



## *EU Policy Webinar on the implementation of the European Care Strategy*

9.30-12.00 CET, Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025

### **Background**

Following a proposal of the European Commission for a European Care Strategy, EU Member States adopted two Council Recommendations: one on early childhood education and care, and one on long-term care.<sup>1</sup> The actions taken under both Recommendations are being monitored through different mechanisms and tools.

COFACE advocates for professional care services across the life cycle to help families reconcile their work and family responsibilities.<sup>2</sup> This is essential to help families manage different work-family transitions such as the birth of a child, a major change in employment status of one or both parents, children's transition through the education and later the employment system, special needs of a family member and care given for older family members. The visibility of family carers and their essential support and care to their family members, sometimes with no professional support, is also highlighted through the European Charter for Family Carers.<sup>3</sup>

To support the implementation of the European Care Strategy, COFACE has been monitoring its development closely with the help of an alliance of European civil society and trade union organisations active in the field of care.<sup>4</sup>

### **Objectives of the EU policy webinar**

This webinar will bring together speakers from the EU institutions, and participants from different fields and backgrounds in order to:

- Discuss tools for monitoring and evaluation of the European Care Strategy implementation;
- Share knowledge from national and EU level in order to strengthen the policy and funding levers to boost implementation.

Working language: English

Participants: COFACE members, EU and national policy-makers, European funding authorities, European and international NGOs.

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<sup>1</sup> [2022 Council Recommendations on early childhood education and care: the Barcelona Targets for 2030](#)  
[2022 Council Recommendation on access to affordable high-quality long-term care](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Families on the Edge: Building a comprehensive European Work-life balance reality, COFACE 2017](#)

<sup>3</sup> [COFACE Disability, European Charter for Family Carers \(2024 review\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Joint statement: Time for a European Long-term care platform, 2024](#)

## PROGRAMME

9.25-9.30	<b>Tune in and virtual coffee</b>
9.30-9.40	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> Antonia Torrens, President of COFACE
9.40-10.00	<b>The role of care policies in supporting family resilience</b> Mary Daly, University of Oxford, Joint Coordinator of the rEUsilience research project
10.00-10.40	<b>European Care Strategy: state of play</b> This session will remind participants of the origins of the strategy, examine the latest developments in relation to both ECEC and LTC and explain how this will be monitored under the new Commission college from 2025-2029.  Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greet Vermeulen, Team leader, Gender equality unit, DG JUST, European Commission</li> <li>• Jiri Svojse, Seconded National Expert, Social Protection Unit, DG EMPL, European Commission</li> </ul> Q&A
10.40-11.30	<b>Monitoring national measures and actions</b>  This session will be an opportunity to dive into the Long-Term Care monitoring framework developed by the Social Protection Committee indicators sub-group; and to dive into some examples of ECEC reforms across countries based on the latest NESET report.  Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maria Calle Garcia, Chair of the Indicators Sub-group of the Social Protection Committee</li> <li>• Christian Morabito, Member of the Network of Experts working on the Social dimension of Education and Training</li> </ul> Q&A
11.30-12.00	<b>Concluding remarks and next steps</b>  This session will bring the national perspectives of both current and future presidency of the EU, with suggestions on initiatives to boost implementation.